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FTA NEWS

FOOD, TOBACCO, AGRICULTURAL AND ... N OF AMERICA—CIO

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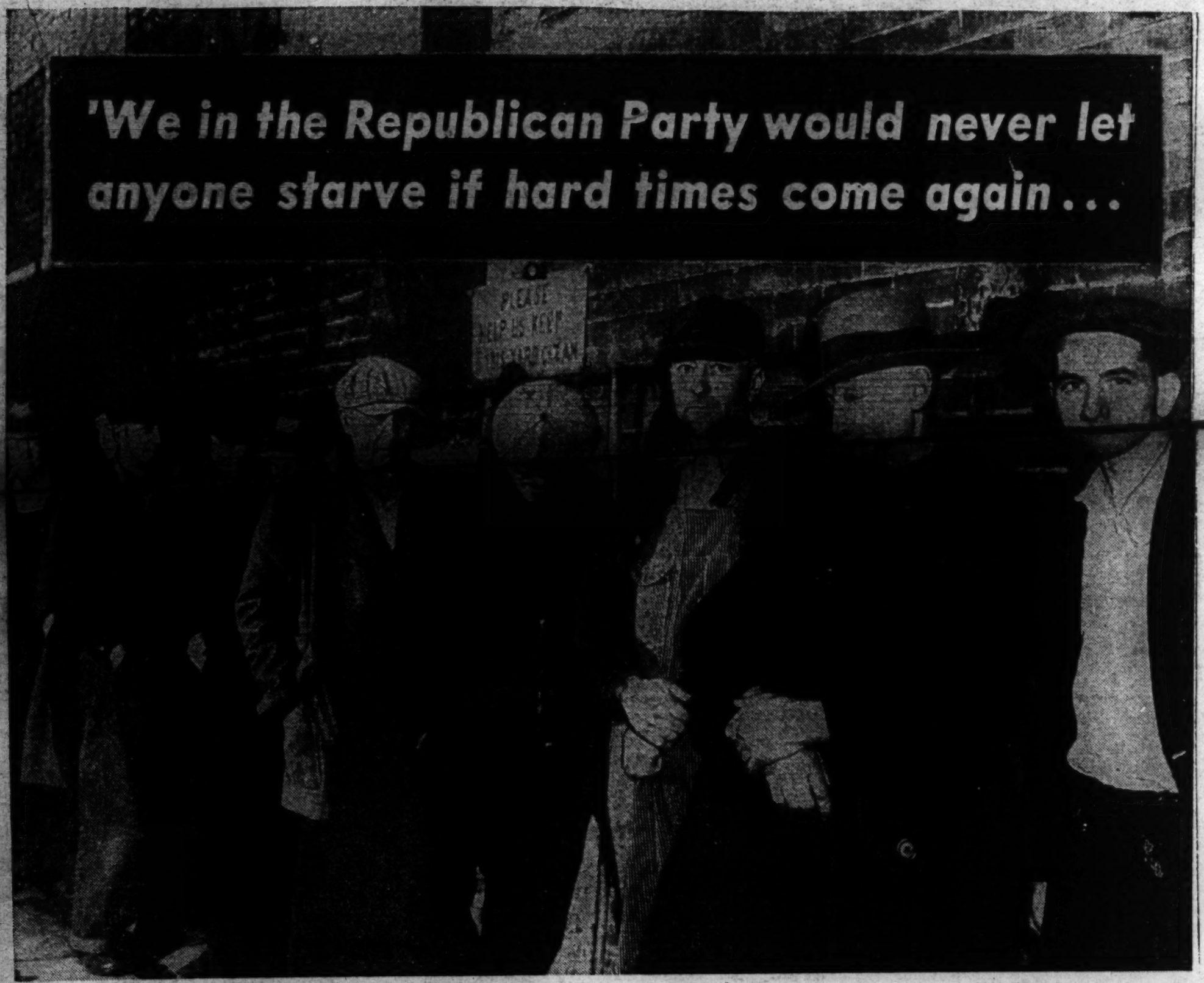
HOW ABOUT IT, GOP?



Thomas Sweeney, who ran for the Senate in West Virginia against labor's friend Harley M. Kilgore (and lost, incidentally), said during the campaign:

"We in the Republican Party would never let anyone starve if hard times come again . . ."

Mr. Sweeney's words have a good chance of going down in history. At least the labor movement will do well to remember them.

The Republicans are in complete control of the 80th Congress as the result of the election. They are in a position to carry out their entire program unhindered, as far as opposition in Congress is concerned.

They do not even have to depend on the alliance with reactionary Democrats that did so much to wreck FDR's policies in the 79th Congress.

Mr. Sweeney wasn't the only GOP candidate who promised prosperity and security to the voters in the campaign. Underneath all the redbaiting, all the slanders against progressives, every Republican made basically the same commitments to the people.

Even the famous slogan "Had Enough? — Vote Republican" was a promise of better things than the people had received from the Truman Democrats and their GOP allies.

Now the people will be watching the straight Republican performance.

They will be watching to see what happens to jobs, to peace, to union rights, to the cost of living, to civil liberties (especially to lynching, FEPC and the polltax), to social security, national health, housing—and a score of other vital issues.

Along with all other workers, FTA members will be watching to see what the Republicans do to the Wagner Act and the Wage Hour Act.

Issues do not die with the GOP victory. On the contrary, they become even more vital.

As the war boom ends, the country gets closer to possible depression and its result in new drives toward war.

The possibility of depression and war depends to the greatest extent on what the Republicans do in the 80th Congress, which runs through 1948.

That is why the people will not only watch the 80th Congress but also fight to make the 80th Congress live up to GOP promises.

The issues aren't dead. And 1948 is another election year.

HOW ABOUT IT, GOP?

WHAT D'YA READ?

Many critics of the American public—that's us—say that we have a bad habit of reading the headlines in the newspapers and not going much further down in the type.

Maybe it is or maybe it isn't a bad habit—but it sure enough can be a confusing one, when you pick up your paper after a Republican election victory.

Take these, for example, out of some of the leading dailies, and see what you make of them.

Here's one from page one of the Washington, D.C., Post, spread out across all eight columns of page one in the biggest type a genteel newspaper allows itself:

TRUMAN AND GOP PLEDGE COOPERATION

And right underneath, also in eight columns, but slightly smaller type:

General Motors Increases Prices of Passenger Cars $100.

Inside the paper were various stories to the general effect that "Business Pledges To Hold Line"; "Industry Seeks Self Restraint" and similar noble sentiments.

Or take this one, from the ultra-respectable New York Times, staunch advocate of All The News That's Fit To Print:.

STABLE COST BASIS SEEN FOR HOUSING

Sounds encouraging, doesn't it? Just like TRUMAN AND GOP PLEDGE . . . but look on the same page, same issue, same size head, and you see this:

VETERANS' HOUSING SEEN AS DOOMED

Why doomed? Because, says the story (we peeked): ". . .. of President Truman's order lifting restrictions and price ceilings on all building materials."

Or here's another pair—also from the Times:

BUSINESSMEN PROMISE EFFORT TO HOLD INCREASES, WHERE NECESSARY, TO A MINIMUM

which is matched by this, same page, same paper:

SOAP PRICES RISE 10 TO 70%
IN WIDE WHOLESALE ADVANCE

Well, as we said before—what d'ya read—the headlines or the headlines?

The Why of the Elections

By DONALD HENDERSON

The Congressional elections of 1946 were lost to the Republicans on issues of world policy.

In 1944, Franklin D. Roosevelt, and with him a majority of Democrats, were elected on the same issues.

What made the majority of the voters turn away from the Democrats and to the Republicans in the two years in between—or less than two years, if you count from Roosevelt's death?

Nothing less than the complete desertion of FDR's world policies by Truman and the politicians who ran the 79th Congress.

Now, what is meant by the phrase "world policies"? First, we mean the programs and actions that are generally called foreign policy; second, the programs and actions that are generally called domestic policy.

In reality, the two are inseparably linked together. A "foreign" policy of peaceful cooperation among nations, which means basically a policy of friendship between the U. S. and the Soviet Union, is always accompanied by a "domestic" policy of progress and security for all Americans.

This was so during FDR's time. It was no accident that FDR's Economic Bill of Rights was advanced by him during the height of the war, when our country cooperated with its allies to smash fascism.

It was no mere coincidence that the majority of the voters chose FDR in 1944 because they wanted both the Economic Bill of Rights and the policy of world unity advanced by FDR.

Truman chose to dump the policies of FDR in favor of those of the Republicans. For all the talk about a "bipartisan foreign policy," the line pursued by Byrnes, Vandenberg, Dulles and Austin is a strictly Republican line, the exact opposite of that pursued by FDR.

It is the line of hostility to the Soviet Union, of constant sniping, baiting, obstructionism. It is followed without regard of the consequences to us and to the world.

From such a foreign policy necessarily flows a reactionary domestic policy. It is no step at all from Soviet-baiting abroad to red-baiting at home—and from red-baiting comes union-baiting, minority-baiting and the coddling of monopoly capitalism in its most predatory forms.

Truman dumped all of FDR's world policies in his year and a half in the White House, despite his lip service to labor, to FEPC, to price control, to housing and the rest.

The result was the election of Republicans in 1946.

This puts the people back into the struggle as never before. No discouragement, no feeling of let-down must be allowed to hinder that struggle.

We have to make a fight for a correct world policy—primarily one of friendship and cooperation between the U.S.A. and the USSR.

We have to make the same fight for correct policies on union rights, FEPC, polltax repeal, the rights of minorities, for curbs on monopoly capitalism, for full employment and all the other points that we fought for with FDR.

If the Democratic Party can offer leadership in this fight, it will survive 1948 and beyond. If the present Democratic leaders refuse, the party is through.

Far more important, however, is the question of our peace, security and welfare. If we fail to make the fight, we shall have none of these—and the most reactionary forces in America will carry the day.

'WE HAVE JUST BEGUN TO FIGHT'—CIO-PAC

We have just begun to fight.

Beginning today—right now—the CIO Political Action Committee will intensify and expand its activity. There will be no halt in our work. There will be no retrenchment. We will go on fighting for Franklin D. Roosevelt's program.

CIO-PAC will continue, more actively than before, to bring its program to the people. Recognising the key importance of securing the nomination of forthright candidates who will arouse the enthusiasm of the people and win their whole-hearted support, we shall emphasize the necessity for day-to-day activity in wards and precincts and active participation in pre-primary work and primary elections.

Ours is not a temporary organization. We are here to stay as a vital and growing influence carrying forward the Roosevelt tradition and rallying the people of America around a program which can assure them a secure and plentiful America in a world at peace.

We go forward to new and greater effort with full confidence in the American people and in the triumph of the great cause for which we have just begun to fight.

FTA news

Food, Tobacco, Agricultural and Allied Workers Union of America — CIO

Editorial Office:
20th and Race Streets, Philadelphia 3, Pa.
Donald Henderson.....General President
Harold J. Lane.....General Secetary-Treasurer

Vice-Presidents

Lewis Bentzley | Otis Nation (on leave) | Dixie Tiller
John Mack Dyson | Armando Ramirez | Armando Valdes
Louis F. Jedlicka | Robbie Mae Riddick | Owen H. Whitfield
Luisa Moreno

C. W. Fowler.....Editor

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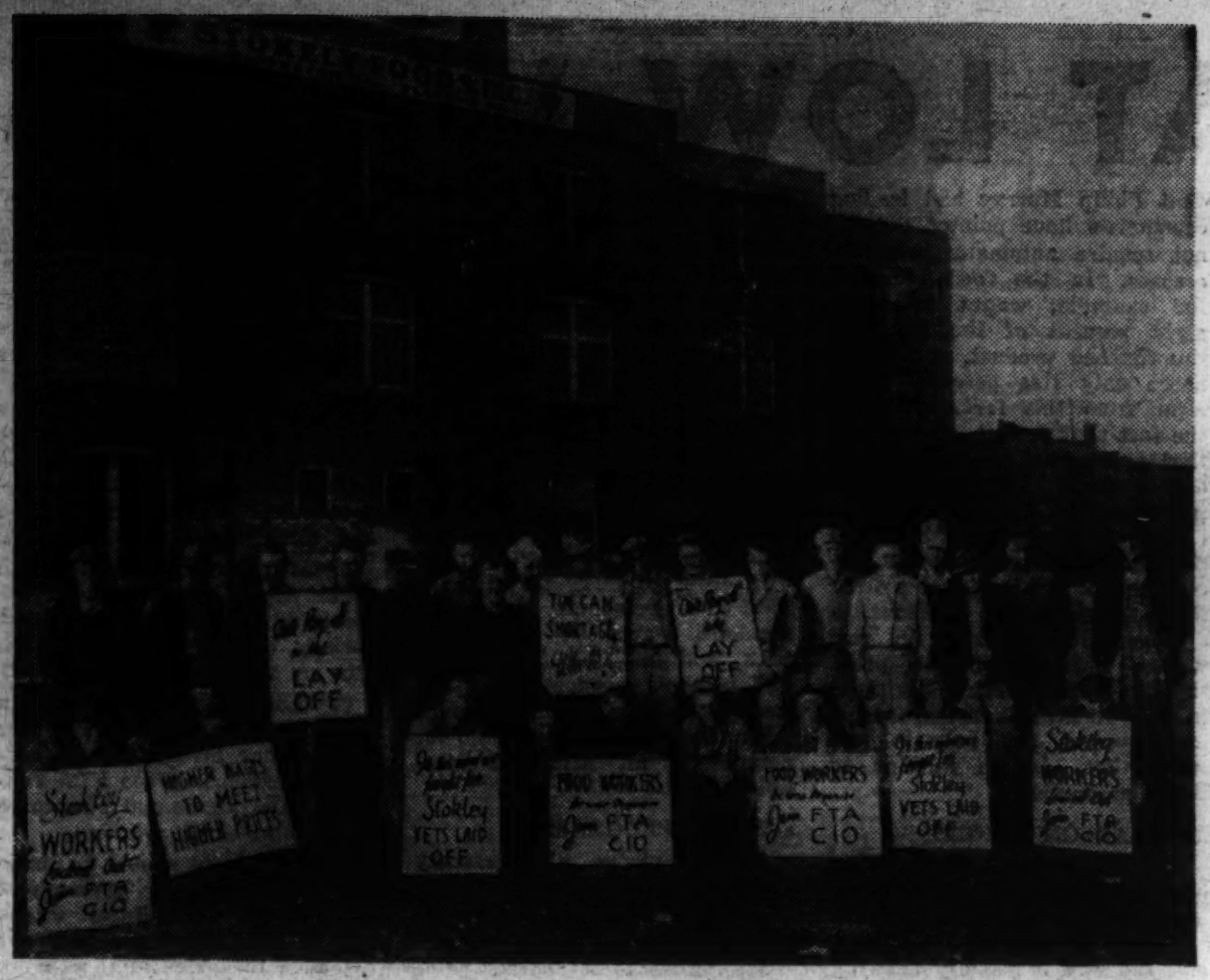


Members of Local 53, shown during their successful two-day strike at the Stokely Foods plant which not only won re-instatement of 35 union members who had been fired, but also served as a springboard for further CIO organization in Hoopeston, Ill. The Company agreed to recognition of the union committee and the NLRB set an election for Nov. 14 to determine bargaining rights.

REPUBLICAN BOSS-MAYOR COMES TO TERMS AT STOKELY FOODS

By John Sloan
Regional Organizer

Hoopeston, Illinois is fast becoming a CIO town. It didn't seem possible; not with the Republican Mayor as boss of the Stokely Foods cannery and the police force at his beck and call. But FTA, the CIO Farm Equipment Workers and Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers unions, showed it could be done.

Last August the three unions agreed to jointly organize the Illinois Canning Co., Stokely Foods, Ivano Manufacturing Co., and the American Can Co. in Hoopeston. The drive was launched in September at a meeting of volunteer organizers from the plants.

Soon application cards came rolling in from cannery workers employed on the corn pack. And, on October 11 a committee of Stokely workers petitioned the company for a 15c raise. The plant had just announced a bumper corn pack 20% over last season's output.

General Manager Mayor Gilbert Trego's reply was "If you're not satisfied with what you're getting, go where you can do better." The workers' answer was prompt. An overwhelming majority of them signed up with FTA.

At quitting time, Friday, October 18, the 35 members were called into the plant office and given the "bum's rush." "No tin to can beans," was what they were told as an excuse for the layoff.

A hurried conference with the CIO members at the can plants in the town quickly established that there were plenty of cans, and that they were being fired for union membership.

On Monday morning the picket line outside Stokely's was 100% solid. Only the two bosses scabbed. The pickets demanded union recognition and re-instatement of the 35 fired workers—12 of whom were vets.

When the chief of police came on the scene and threatened arrest, the strikers refused to be bullied. They just kept on picketing, saying there would be no trouble unless he started it.

Six foot, 180 pound scab William Parks got what he deserved at the hands of striking veterans.

The two-day lockout ended with the company agreeing to reinstate with payment for time lost; recognition of the union committee and grievance settlement; and a consent election through the NLRB.

The members were chartered as FTA Local 53, and the local set up a veterans committee and elected temporary officers — William Green, president and Louis Flynn, financial secretary.

Following the filing of a petition with the NLRB, an election date was set for November 14.

At the same time, Farm Equipment has signed up a majority of the Ivano workers and an NLRB hearing is being held to determine an election date. Organization at the other two plants — Illinois Canning and American Can—is progressing.

CIO is consolidating its position now with support from many of the merchants. FTA's organizing drive is being extended to other canneries in the area.

STRIKE TO WIPE OUT SUBSTANDARD WAGES

Strong in their determination to wipe out substandard wages and speed-up sweatshop conditions, the workers at the Chicago Macaroni Company, members of Local 194, this week filed strike notice. Wages at the plant range from 45 to 60c an hour.

Since FTA won bargaining rights last September 24, the negotiating committee has been trying to get a contract which meets its demands for a union shop, check-off, 35c an hour increase retroactive to September 24, and a wage reopening clause. So far, company offers amounted to five cents an hour plus a few other minor improvements.

Company pleas of inability to pay in spite of an average annual sales of over $2,000,000, cut no ice with FTA members. They've set up a strike committee which is making preparations for strike action and appealing for funds.

Win 20c At Heims

One month after winning an NLRB election at Heims Pure Foods, Gloucester, N. J., Local 80 won a 20c per hour general increase, union shop, check-off, six paid holidays, two weeks vacation after four years service, four hours call in pay, group insurance plan, jointly paid by employees and company.

Negotiating Committee members were Edwina Eager, Chairlady; Herbert Kling, President; Anthony Valentino, Business Manager.

Non-Stop Organizer

Sam Nadelman, FTA international representative "may at times be out but he is never down," reports Virginia CIO Director Ernest B. Pugh.

Nadelman, while organizing the J. P. Taylor Tobacco Co. workers at South Boston, Va., was stricken with appendicitis and hospitalized at Danville.

"Before leaving the hospital he organized all the orderlies and attendants and turned the applications over to a representative of the CIO Public Workers, which has set up a local union," Pugh reported.

Incidentally, the Taylor Tobacco election was won by 385 to 10, as reported in the last issue of FTA News.

Northwest Conference

A conference of FTA locals in the Northwestern Region is scheduled for November 30 and December 1 at 221 Second Avenue, Seattle, Washington. The conference will convene at 10 a.m. on Saturday, November 30. Alaska locals will be unable to attend.

CONVENTION SET FOR JAN. 13

The Sixth National Convention of FTA-CIO will be held in Philadelphia, Pa., following the decision of the October International Executive Board.

Text of the Convention Call, sent to all locals by registered mail over the signature of President Henderson and Secretary-Treasurer Lane, follows in full:

You are hereby notified of the calling of the Sixth National Convention of FTA-CIO, to be held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, at the Hotel Stephen Girard January 13-18, 1947.

The Sixth Convention of FTA-CIO meets at a critical time not only for our members but also for the workers of the United States and of the world.

Since we met last in 1944, the workers have won one of the greatest victories in history with the military destruction of German and Japanese fascism.

This victory was won by the blood of countless millions of working men and [illegible] and by their labor on the production lines, in which our members played a leading part together with those of other unions.

Today we are in danger of losing this dearly-bought victory in the drive toward a new world war and in the massing of reactionary forces against our union and against all labor.

In our country, big business and its agents in government have intensified their attacks on our union, on our living standards and on our liberties.

Abroad, the same sinister men seek to promote new exploitation of our fellow workers and to revive fascism, with eventual destruction of the world in atomic war unless they are halted.

The growth of our union over the past two years, and the fighting strength shown by our members, stand in the way of these plans to destroy the people's liberties and to bring about the undisputed rule of big business.

Together with our brother unions in the CIO, and with our fellow workers of all lands, we are determined to carry on our fight for peace, for better living standards and for the security of all working people.

We [illegible] this Sixth Convention of FTA-CIO to these ends, pledging our organized strength with that of all progressives until final victory is won.

FTA ELECTION WINS STILL CLIMBING UP

National Labor Relations Board election victories won by FTA have been mounting up since those reported November 1. In the past few weeks the following plants went FTA:

Walbrook Tobacco Co., Goldsboro, N.C.: 182 for FTA and 25 for AFL. **R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Co., Greenville, N.C.:** 55 for FTA and none for no union. **Export Leaf Tobacco Co., Rocky Mount, N.C.:** 146 for FTA, 31 for AFL and four for no union. **E. V. Webb Tobacco Co., Kinston, N.C.:** 150 for FTA and 10 for no union.

Tallulah Oil Mill and Gin, Tallulah, La.: 34 for FTA and seven for no union. **Pritchard Rice Mill, Houston, Texas:** 45 for FTA and six for no union.

BACK ASSESSMENT BY THREE TO ONE VOTE

"Full steam ahead" was the mandate FTA locals gave the Union by an 80 to 24 vote for the three dollar assessment.

Results of the referendum vote on the assessment were announced this week by General Secretary-Treasurer Harold J. Lane.

Of 121 locals eligible to vote, 80 locals representing 29,257 members voted "yes," 24 locals representing 11,240 members voted "no," while 17 locals representing 3,881 members abstained from voting.

According to the decision of the vote, "the assessment period will be from September 1, 1946 to August 31, 1947, and must be paid by all members in all plants of all existing locals having collective bargaining contracts as of July 1, 1946 and all new members joining the local and remaining members of the local for a period of six months or more from such plants during the collection period."

The referendum which began July 1 was to have ended August 31. However, the International Executive Board extended the voting period to October 15 to enable locals in seasonal industries to participate in the voting.

FTA HITS AT LOW WAGES

Wages in the food, tobacco and fiber industries have always been substandard and have been based on the barest subsistence needs of the workers.

They have always been the lowest paid of all industries, and during the war fell still further behind such manufacturing industries as automobiles, steel, electrical and the like.

After the war, FTA-CIO made considerable progress in wiping out substandard wages in our industries, bringing the workers more than $25,000,000 in wage increases since V-J Day.

The rise in living costs since the end of price control, and particularly the rise in food costs, have more than wiped out these gains won through collective bargaining and hard-fought strikes.

It has become impossible for the workers in our industries to maintain more than minimum living standards.

This inflation in living costs brought about by a reactionary-Republican polltax - Democrat coalition in Congress, aided and abetted by the Truman Administration, has reduced workers' living standards to below pre-war levels.

The wrecking of price control by Congress, in which Republicans such as Senator Taft of Ohio played the leading part, and the abject surrender by the Truman Administration to the meat trust, were done at the order of big business whose greed for profits will, if unchecked, lead the country into a new depression more terrible than anything ever experienced before.

PROFITS UP

Profits in the food, tobacco and fiber industries are at new highs, and in recent months have gone up much faster than those of other industries. With the complete de-control of food prices, these profits will soar still higher, bringing further suffering to the workers in substandard wage areas and industries.

While raking in super-profits, big business through the National Association of Manufacturers and other propaganda agencies tries to blame the workers for high prices and for the threatening economic collapse brought on by their own greed.

In this attempt big business has the loyal cooperation of the leaders of the American Federation of Labor, who echo the lies of the NAM and try to persuade labor not to seek wage raises and to accept the employers' speedup without question.

Wage increases, as CIO President Philip Murray and leading economists have pointed out, do not require automatic price increases. In the food industry, for example, wages are only eight percent of the value of the finished product, and in tobacco only five percent. It is clear from this fact, and from the fact that profits are so high, that substantial wage increases can be absorbed without increasing prices.

Output per worker increased 25 percent during the war, according to figures of the War Production Board, without a corresponding increase in real wages. This is additional proof that the workers, especially those in substandard industries, have lost ground not only in real wages but also in relation to their productivity.

MURRAY ON WAGES

The wage-price situation has been well described by CIO President Murray when he said:

"The workers need the money, and the day is rapidly drawing near when our people will not have enough money in their pocketbooks to get the bare necessities of life.

"American industry is making plenty of money and can well afford to give healthy wage increases now without increasing the price of commodities.

"This nation need not have any depression. If industry, through collective bargaining, stabilizes purchasing power by putting higher pay in the worker's envelope, there is no need for any depression."

An even greater injustice is done to agricultural workers, whose wages during and since the war have had a government ceiling imposed on them without any provision for a floor, despite high prices paid for their products and despite the huge profits of the food industry.

In order to carry forward the FTA-CIO drive to end substandard wages in our industries, and in order to help the nation avoid economic disaster, the International Executive Board adopts the following program for action by all affiliated local unions:

8-POINT PROGRAM

1. We pledge all necessary steps to end substandard wages in the food, tobacco and fiber industries.

We refuse to let ourselves be treated as Grade B citizens any longer. All locals and the international union shall launch a nation-wide campaign in the labor movement and among the general public to end substandard conditions in our industries, as a menace to all wages and to the health and welfare of the nation.

2. As soon as current contracts permit, demands for substandard wage increases should be made.

3. All contracts should provide for reopening of the wage clauses by the union on 30 days notice.

4. FTA's drive for overtime pay at time and a half after eight hours a day and 40 hours work a week without seasonal exemptions must be intensified and completed.

5. All contracts shall establish equal pay for equal work for men and women and shall not permit differentials based on race or national origin.

6. Locals should demand a seasonal guaranteed wage for all workers hired for the season as exists in some FTA contracts, and an annual guarantee for non seasonal workers.

7. All efforts should be made to end wartime government ceilings on agricultural wages and to have the wage hour act extended to agricultural workers with the 65-75 cent minimum as a floor.

8. Locals should intensify the FTA drive to secure paid holidays, double pay for Sundays and holiday work, group insurance paid by the employer, and all other points in the wage program adopted by the Board at its January, 1946 meeting.

ASK MURRAY STAY ON AS PRESIDENT OF CIO

Praising Philip Murray for his "wise and courageous leadership," the FTA Executive Board urged him to stay on as President of CIO.

At the same time, the Board thanked Murray and other CIO leaders for thir help to FTA's California campaign and other organizing drives.

Excerpts from both resolutions follow:

The growth of the CIO to its position as the leading organization of workers in the United States is due to the wise and courageous leadership of its President, Philip Murray.

Under Philip Murray's leadership the CIO consistently speaks for the most progressive sections of the American people, both on domestic and on foreign issues, and today plays the leading role in organizing the unorganized and in lifting wages and living standards for all workers.

Under his leadership the members of the CIO have been able to take their rightful place with their fellow workers of all lands through the World Federation of Trade Unions.

Philip Murray has used his great prestige and authority for the unity of the CIO and of all labor against disruption and factional dissension.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the International Executive Board of FTA-CIO, expressing the will of the membership, hereby respectfully urges Philip Murray to continue his leadership of the CIO, as he has done in the past, by consenting to remain as President of the CIO.

AND BE IT RESOLVED that we address this petition to President Murray in the full realization of the heavy burden he bears as the leader of progressive American labor, and that we pledge to continue our wholehearted support to his policies and his leadership.

The wholehearted cooperation of CIO President Philip Murray has been a major contribution to FTA-CIO and to the cannery workers in the California cannery election.

President Murray has freely given his time and energy to our union in supporting the campaign both in speeches and public statements on our behalf, and in appearances before the National Labor Relations Board and other government agencies.

President Murray has assigned officials and leaders of CIO to our assistance in this and other organizing drives.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the General Executive Board of FTA-CIO go on record thanking President Murray for his cooperation and reaffirming our support of his policies and our determination to continue to strengthen CIO under his leadership.

Philip Murray

PUSH SOUTHERN DRIVE WITH FULL CIO AID

Following is the text of the Board resolution on the Southern organizing drive:

The Southern organizing drive of the CIO, in which FTA is publicly recognized to be playing a [illegible] is bringing the benefits of collective bargaining for the first time to thousands of Southern workers.

FTA, in cooperation with the CIO Organizing Committee directed by Van A. Bittner, is leading all other unions in number of elections won and in workers involved, most notably in the tobacco leafhouse industry.

These successes are due to the leadership given to the drive by CIO President Philip Murray and Van A. Bittner, and to the wholehearted cooperation between FTA and the CIO Organizing Committee.

The Southern Organizing drive is bringing thousands of new members to the international union and to the CIO, thus improving their economic welfare and further strengthening the progressive labor movement throughout the nation.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Board go on record commending the leadership of Philip Murray and Van A. Bittner in this drive;

AND BE RESOLVED that we go on record pledging continued cooperation and support to the CIO Organizing Committee as the most effective means of freeing Southern workers from low wages and oppressive living conditions, and of protecting and making possible the further improvement of working and living conditions, both through economic and political gains, of all workers in the industries under our jurisdiction and in the nation.

PLEDGE ALL-OUT CANNERY DRIVE

All-out aid to the California cannery workers in their struggle to liberate themselves from AFL-company union domination was pledged at the FTA Intl. Executive Board meeting.

The first resolution is addressed to the cannery workers of California; the second to the CIO.

TO CANNERY WORKERS

The struggle led by FTA-CIO to win genuine collective bargaining for the California cannery workers is in the interest of the workers in that industry and of all workers under our jurisdiction and throughout the nation.

The results of the California cannery election have proved that the workers, despite extreme intimidation and terror, and despite the collusion between the employers and the AFL Teamsters Brotherhood, want and need a union of their own free choice to represent them in collective bargaining.

Only FTA-CIO is capable of securing genuine collective bargaining, free from employer influence, for the cannery workers.

Such genuine collective bargaining power can result from a free election fairly conducted without the conditions of collusion and intimidation that prevented a free vote in August, 1946.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that FTA-CIO, with the aid of the national CIO, pledge itself to carry on the fight to bring the benefits of genuine trade unionism to the cannery workers of California and elsewhere;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that FTA-CIO pledges to carry on the fight in support of the cannery workers both on the job in the canneries and in the political campaign that must be waged in Washington and in the nation to secure them in their rights;

AND BE IT RESOLVED that FTA-CIO will not end this struggle until the cannery workers in California shall be able to take their place with their fellow workers in the CIO as free men and women, enjoying all rights and benefits won by workers liberated from company union domination.

TO CIO

The NLRB election held in August, 1946, among some 50,000 cannery workers in northern California affects not only the welfare of the workers involved but of the entire CIO and of all workers.

This election was conducted under conditions of extreme intimidation resulting from collusion between the cannery employers and the American Federation of Labor, represented by the Teamsters Brotherhood, which collusion and intimidation prevented the cannery workers from exercising their free choice of a union to represent them.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Executive Board of FTA-CIO calls the attention of all unions affiliated to the CIO to the dangers inherent in permitting this anti-union maneuver to become effective;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we call upon all CIO unions to support the California cannery workers in their fight to have the unfair election and the collusive contract set aside by the NLRB, and a new election ordered, without the illegal conditions surrounding the election of August, 1946, with full protection of the right of cannery workers to make their own choice of collective bargaining agent and with all necessary safeguards against company - union intimidation assured;

AND BE IT RESOLVED that we pledge to our brother CIO unions that we shall, with their assistance, carry on the fight to free the California cannery workers from company-union domination and thus ensure the continued effectiveness of the Wagner Act.

Thanks To CIO Unions

FTA-CIO received extensive help from its brother unions of the CIO in the California cannery election campaign.

This help, both in finances and in personnel, was of material aid in combatting the vicious anti-union drive of the cannery employers and of the AFL Teamsters acting as their agents.

With the assistance of brother CIO unions, FTA-CIO secured the support of some 48 percent of the cannery workers despite the unprecedented campaign waged against us and against the entire CIO.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the General Executive Board of FTA-CIO goes on record thanking the CIO unions that gave generously and effectively of their assistance and cooperation in the election.

BIG 3 UNITY—KEY TO PEACE

The key to peace and to the removal of the fear of war is the building of friendly constructive relations among all countries, and particularly among the "Big Three," of which the United States and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics are the two strongest world powers.

In order to remove the fear of war from the minds of all peoples, including our own, our nation must carry out a foreign policy designed to promote these good relations constantly and effectively, as outlined by President Truman in his speech to the opening meeting of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

It is not enough to talk of peace as an ideal. As President Truman has pointed out, we must develop and perfect ways of achieving and maintaining peace in all dealings between nations and peoples throughout the world.

At the present time, despite the devotion of the American people to peace, we do not have the friendly cooperation among nations that is essential to world security and recovery.

The foreign affairs of the United States have been in the hands of men who are not devoted to peace and who are known enemies of the workers and of democracy.

ENEMIES OF PEACE

Our relations with other nations have been in the hands of such men as Herbert Hoover, author of the misery of the great depression, Arthur H. Vandenberg, consistent opponent of labor's rights, including the Wagner Act, Robert A. Taft, defender of the Nazi war criminals, and James F. Byrnes, an enemy of the Negro people and a protector of lynching and of the poll tax.

The policies and acts of these men, and of the big business forces behind them, run directly counter to the world unity for peace and against aggression laid down by Franklin D. Roosevelt and repeatedly endorsed by President Truman.

In place of freedom and the welfare of all workers, including our own, these men serve the interests of American monopoly corporations and international cartels seeking to dominate the entire world and to increase the exploitation and misery of all working people, including those in the colonial countries, for the sake of imperialist super-profits.

The aim of world domination is clearly seen in the threat and in the direct use of American and British military power, including the atomic bomb, the menace of warships and military airplanes over the world and the use of troops against friendly nations and peoples struggling for freedom, as in China, Greece, Trieste, Yugoslavia and other countries and areas.

It is also clearly seen in the withholding of U. S. loans and other economic aid from democratic governments, as in Poland, Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union, and in the subsidies freely paid to aggressive governments as in Kuomintang China, Greece and others.

DANGER TO U. S.

These acts not only promote the fear and danger of war, but also are a danger to the wages and living standards of all American workers.

Such acts against world recovery and security are of a piece with the fight carried on in this country by big business against the CIO and against the struggle of our members to maintain decent living and working conditions.

The key to peace and to "the removal of the fear of war" is unity among all nations, and especially among the "Big Three" of which the U. S. and the Soviet Union are the two strongest powers, the FTA Executive Board said in its October meeting in Philadelphia.

A program of unity and friendship among all peace-loving nations is set forth in the FTA Board resolution on foreign policy, given in full on this page.

Acts that promote the fear of war make a direct cut in wages and living standards by imposing a crushing burden of taxation and debt upon the workers to maintain huge and unnecessary armaments, and by forcing other countries to use their resources for arms rather than reconstruction.

Such acts also increase the oppression of colonial peoples in order both to finance possible war and to increase still further the profits of their exploiters, most notably in the British Empire but also in colonial and semi-colonial areas such as the Philippines and parts of China occupied by the United States.

This in turn brings nearer an imminent depression by cutting mass purchasing power and by shrinking world markets for goods made by American workers.

The acts and policies of the Hoover - Vandenberg - Byrnes [illegible] in Germany and Japan, through the encouragement of anti - democratic forces and the protection of big business war criminals are a further threat to peace and a direct repudiation of the Potsdam agreements designed to prevent the recurrence of fascism and war.

These acts and policies, if continued, can only promote the fear of war and will create the conditions in which war is inevitable.

Such a war will bring about the destruction of American cities and towns and the death of scores of millions of American men, women and children through the use of atomic bombs, bacteria and similar weapons, the full horror of which will not be known until after they have been used.

10 POINT PROGRAM

The Executive Board of FTA-CIO, having in mind the cost of war in death and misery to the workers, and seeking to promote the removal of the fear of war not only among our own members but among our fellow workers throughout the world, pledges its resources and energy to the following program of friendly cooperation and peace among all nations:

1. We commend President Truman's speech to the opening session of the United Nations General Assembly, as a reaffirmation of American friendship and unity among all nations for world recovery.

2. We call upon the present Administration and upon Congress to guarantee that this policy is effectively carried out by our State Department, our armed forces and other agencies of government.

3. We support all efforts of the United Nations for cooperation and peace, and we wholeheartedly support the efforts of its Secretary General, Trygve Lie, and members of the Assembly and all other progressive force to take action against the threat of war represented by the fascist dictatorship of Franco over the workers and farmers of Spain.

4. We pledge the full cooperation of our union to CIO President Philip Murray in his efforts for world peace, particularly through the World Federation of Trade Unions to which we are affiliated.

5. We endorse the foreign policy platform for peace worked out by the Chicago Conference of Progressives, in which our union and the CIO participated.

6. We urge our members to actively support candidates for public office pledged to such a program, and to actively work for the defeat of candidates of all parties who oppose it either by word, vote or other action.

7. We commend Henry A. Wallace for his great service in bringing the attention of the people to the critical world situation created by a policy of hostility against the Soviet Union and other nations, and by the use of atomic energy for other than peaceful purposes.

8. As the only international union of food processing workers in this country, we condemn the use of food as a political weapon against workers' governments and other democratic regimes and urge its use only as a means of promoting world recovery and preventing mass suffering.

9. We condemn the war incitement of the top leaders of the American Federation of Labor and urge all workers, members of the AFL and otherwise, to join in solidarity with workers of other lands through the WFTU.

10. We adopt this program in the full realization that we must fight to achieve it in the same militant and courageous way our rank and file fights to advance wages, working and living standards.

LABOR'S ONE WORLD: Members of the World Federation of Trade Unions Executive Bureau pose for the cameraman before commencing their sessions at CIO headquarters. Left to right, seated: M. P. Tarasov, USSR; CIO Pres. Murray; Lord Citrine, Great Britain, who retired from the WFTU presidency; Louis Saillant, France; G. Di Vittorio, Italy. Standing: Galena Kulkikova, Russian interpreter; Frank Rosenblum, CIO Amalgamated Clothing Workers; Albert Carthy, assistant to Lord Citrine; Robert Chambeyron, assistant to Saillant; V. Lombardo Toledano, Mexico; Alex Veret, France, union research director; Adolph Germer, CIO, newly appointed assistant secretary-general of the WFTU. Not present when the picture was taken were Leon Jouhax of France, E. Kupers of Netherlands, and Arthur Deaken, new WFTU president.

BRITISH LABOR TO PROBE MONOPOLY PRESS

LONDON (ALN) — Overriding Tory objections, the British House of Commons has decided to investigate whether "freedom of the press" can thrive in the hands of monopoly-minded press lords, three of whom control chains of anti-labor newspapers read by 23 million of Britain's 48 million people.

The probe was originally proposed by the Natl. Union of Journalists, which charges that the nation's press is being gobbled up by the three powerful chains. Far from reflecting the observations of reporters on the spot, copy and editorial comment are fed to the papers from a central office under the direction of a millionaire proprietor, the NUJ contends.

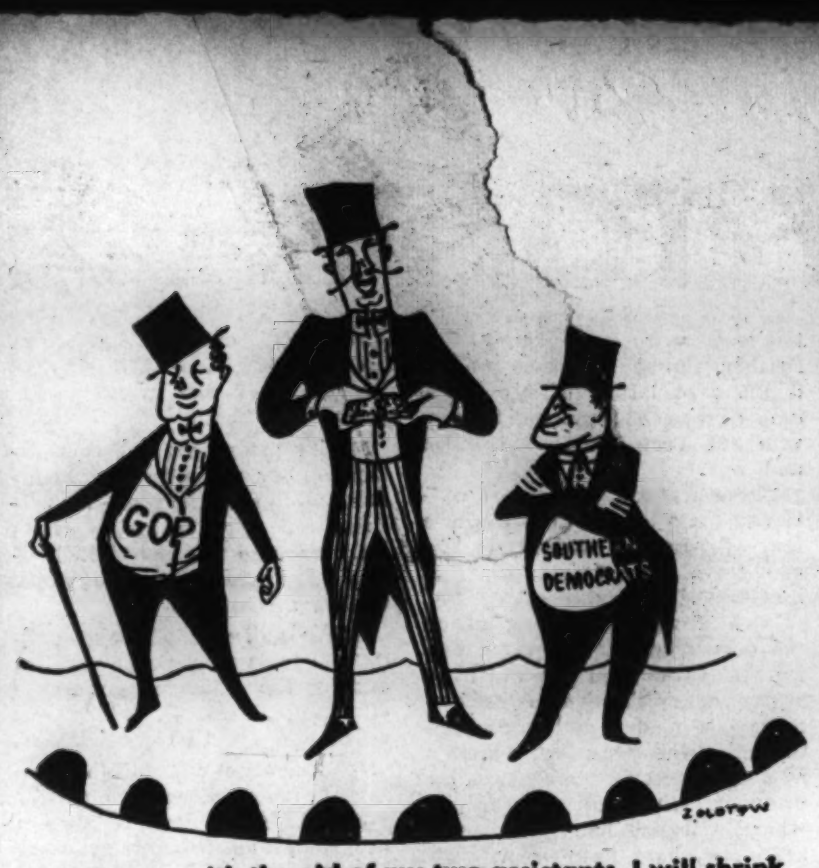
The Kemsley group of papers is regarded by the union as the biggest offender. Lord Kemsley owns 17 papers in all parts of the country, with a combined readership of 10 million. Lord Beaverbrook, publisher of one of London's most virulent anti-labor papers, the Daily Express, reaches seven million readers through his chain and the Rothermere group is close behind with a circulation of six million.

The House of Commons' decision to probe the press will turn the public spotlight on the following facts:

(1) Ownership, control and financing of national and provincial newspapers; (2) the extent to which the growth of powerful newspaper chains is creating a monopoly; (3) the ability of independent papers to withstand competition from the big combines; (4) the influence of financial and advertising interests on presentation and suppression of news; (5) distortion of essential facts in news presentation.

Labor Member of Parliament Haydn Davies, one of 23 NUJ members in the House, backed up the union's charges by pointing out that since 1921 the big newspaper networks have bought out small publishers, reducing the number of papers in London from 18 to 12 and in the provinces from 130 to 83.

The House of Commons voted 271 to 157 in favor of the investigation, which will be conducted by a Royal Commission.



"And now, with the aid of my two assistants, I will shrink the dollar until it disappears before your very eyes!"

HOW THE NEW U.S. CONGRESS STACKS UP

By Elizabeth Sasuly, Washington Representative

In the 79th Congress we could count on a minority of Representatives and Senators to stand up for the rights of labor and the welfare of the people generally.

In spite of what you read in the papers, the measure of the 80th Congress is not the number of Democrats and Republicans who were elected but the extent to which this minority fighting bloc was cut down.

Here are some figures to show what happened as a result of the November 5th elections. But these figures must be taken with several warnings:

1) The most reactionary Congresses and state legislatures have in the past been held in check and even moved to meet the people's needs when they were faced with the aroused anger of the people.

It can happen again if we make it happen. This means digging down to the job of organizing for political action — doubling our work in PAC committees, clubs and neighborhoods and getting ready IN TIME for the payoff in 1948.

2) Specifically, it should be noted that in a number of key Congressional districts where reactionaries won, the races were very close. It can be expected that the men who won will be sensitive to pressure.

3) Don't believe newspaper lies about a GOP landslide. The Republican victory came nowhere near the success won, for example, by Roosevelt in 1936 when the issues were at their sharpest and the people knew where they were going. For the country as a whole, a shift of only five percent in the vote cast would have given a Democratic majority.

Above all, let us not be deluded by such defeatist talk as "We can't win in '48 unless the Republicans really throw the country into a tailspin." What the working people of America win in an election depends on us —the working people of America. If we start building today and if we never for a moment lose sight of our goal in November 1948, we can't lose.

Here are some of the figures and names:

Of the 120 members of the House of Representatives who usually voted with labor, 67 will be back in the 80th Congress.

Of approximately 60 Representatives who could be counted on when the chips were down to support labor, there will be a group of 33 to 36 on hand in January.

That's how it stacks up on quantity, and you can add two or three newly elected good men to the pro labor blocs listed above. Now let's look at the quality. Here we won one outstanding victory. Vito Marcantonio, American Labor Party congressman from New York, the leader of the pro-labor bloc, is back on the job.

Among other good pro-labor Congressmen we will have with us are: Emmanuel Celler and Adam Clayton Powell of New York, both Democratic and American Labor Party; George Miller, Helen Douglas and Chet Holifield, Democrats, and Dick Welch, Republican of California; Kelley and Eberharter, Democrats of Pennsylvania, Representative Sabath, outstanding fighter from Chicago, and Harless and Murdock, Democrats of Arizona. A new progressive Democrat, John Carrol, replaced reactionary Rep. Gillespie of Colorado.

Some of the outstanding men who were defeated were: George Outland and Ned Healy of California, Frank Hook of Michigan, Bill Green of Pennsylvania, and Matthew Neely of West Virginia. We lost one of our best young leaders with the defeat of Joseph DeLacy of Washington.

In the Senate, the bloc of about 33 pro labor votes was reduced by six. However, one liberal Southerner was added, John Sparkman of Alabama. It should be noted that among Republican aspirants for the 1948 presidential nomination and their supporters ther may be Senators who will occasionally vote with labor in an attempt to build a record for their party in 1948.

For leadership in the bloc fighting for the people's rights, look to Senators Pepper (D. Fla.), Murray (D. Mont.), Kilgore (D. W. Va.), and Wagner (D. N. Y.). On the Republican side, Senators Aiken of Vermont and Morse of Oregon are the two who have most consistently voted for labor.

We have often said that the character of the men holding chairmanships in House and Senate committees is an important index of whether Congress has improved or deteriorated. It is true that under the seniority system, with Southern polltaxers piling up seniority, reactionary Democrats have hung on to many key committee jobs. However, a survey of the Republicans who will probably take over committee chairmanships because of their seniority shows that in most cases we will lose ground under Republican control of the House and Senate.

Eight Republican Committee chairmen will be worse than their Democratic predecessors.

Two Republican Committee chairmen will be about the same (just as bad) as these who went before them.

In the House: Eight chairmen will be worse. Seven will be about the same. Three will probably be better.

It is particularly important to note who the chairmen of the Labor Committees in the House and Senate will be. Dick Welch, labor supported Republican from San Francisco, is in line for the House job. It will be an important victory if he gets it, as he should according to seniority rules.

In the Senate, the ranking Republican member of the Education and Labor committee is the arch enemy of labor, Robert A. Taft of Ohio.

HARD WORK ON ISSUES WINS VITAL ELECTION

In the 18th congressional district of New York a man named Vito Marcantonio was reelected to Congress. On the same day, 434 other men and women won seats in the House of Representatives, yet Marcantonio's election was one of the most outstanding campaigns of all.

Do voters in California, Washington, or Texas know who Marcantonio is and what he stands for? They should, because the rich and selfish bosses of the Republican party, the ruthless handful of men who operate the big monopolies throughout the country, know him very well.

Here is what they had against Marcantonio: He voted right on every single issue in Congress for 10 years. He fought for housing, for medical care, for lower prices and for peace. He never missed a single vote or committee meeting. And so they called him a "red."

But they failed. They failed because labor knew how much was at stake. The Marcantonio victory demonstrates that even in the face of the worst conditions a properly organized campaign can always win.

FTA's Local 273 did a real job in this campaign. Workers from the Klein shop heard Marcantonio speak at a special meeting and some of the best fighters on the Klein picket line became fighters for Marcantonio.

Let's look at some of the highlights in this campaign, to find out how it was done:

1. **Organizing the district.** In New York we are fortunate in having the American Labor Party—a working people's party with which the CIO unions are affiliated. Labor party clubs were organized in every section of the district. Every captain in charge and working out of a club had to know his section cold.

2. **Getting voters registered.** When the union people saw the small margin by which Marc won the Democratic nomination in the primary election, they realized they had to get to work. **One member of Local 273 visited close to 600 people.**

3. **Bringing the issues to the people.** Marcantonio is known as one of the most energetic campaigners who ever hit a street corner. He spoke on the issues six or seven times daily at street corners, in small halls, in large halls, in debate with his opponent. He told the people specifically what he had done in Congress.

4. **Canvassing.** Sometimes we think that canvassing people to get them registered is enough. If we had been satisfied with that in Marcantonio's campaign, it is a safe bet that his opponent would have won. So many people were reading so many lies and distortions so constantly that it sometimes took as much as an hour or more of discussion to get the issues straight, but it was done.

Particular attention was paid to minority groups with people who could speak the language of the families they were canvassing. There are large Puerto Rican, Spanish and Italian groups in Marcantonio's district. "American Action" tried to buy off their leaders. Marcantonio's supporters fought this with meetings, canvassing, and the proof of what he had done to help each of these groups.

There were hundreds of canvassers working in this congressional district in the last days of the campaign. Almost every voter of the total of over 85,000 eligible to vote was seen and some were seen two and three times. Volunteer workers sent out leaflets to every one of these voters.

5. **Getting out the vote and guarding the polls.** Election day workers were divided into two groups, those who watched the polls and those who remained on hand at the various sector headquarters.

6. **Unions covering their membership.** In addition to the neighborhood work, unions reached their membership directly in the plants and by mail. Local 273 separated out of its membership list those who lived in Marcantonio's district. Special communications were sent to these workers and active campaigners were drawn from among them.

On election day, watchers checked on their registration list those who voted and transmitted to headquarters the names of Marcantonio supporters who had not voted by the end of the morning. The workers at the headquarters then combed the district house to house, reminding those who had not voted to get out and do so before the polls closed. This is the most efficient way of getting out the vote for your side.

These are just some of the things that were done in a campaign that won. The two ingredients for success were: A good fighting candidate and a campaign organized so well that unlimited money and all the newspapers in the biggest city in the world couldn't lick it.

WINSTON-SALEM BOSSES ORDER ARRESTS IN ANTI-CIO DRIVE

The arrest last week of 13 laundry strikers, following the frame-up of three striking Local 22 members, has left no doubt in the minds of Winston-Salem, N. C., workers that the big bosses are in a concerted drive to smash the CIO there.

By something more than coincidence, the same lawyer who helped write the 1945 R. J. Reynolds contract with FTA is also the attorney for the laundry owners and every other employer in this town is trying to smash the CIO.

Unprotected by the Wagner Act, working nine hours a day under unsanitary conditions for as little as 30c an hour, some 500 laundry workers were forced to strike to win recognition of their union, the CIO Fur & Leather Workers, and a 65c minimum wage. The strike was provoked by the owners of five laundries who fired leading union members. Repeated attempts by the union to effect a meeting with the owners were refused. One boss said, he would "rather die and go to hell" before he'd recognize the union.

The 13 pickets were arrested in the first three weeks of the strike for the "crime" of trying to persuade scabs to stay out. Sentences for seven ranged from three to 12 months in jail and on the roads. Bond was placed at the outrageous total of $17,000.

The union busting tactics used by the courts and police are the same as those used against FTA, when an unprovoked police attack on the Piedmont Leaf House picket line resulted in the arrest of three members. They were jailed without charges for several hours, and denied bail and counsel.

Sentences in Local 22's case ranged from eight months for Cal Jones to 12 months for Phil Koritz on the county roads.

Union lawyers have appealed the case to the State Supreme Court on the basis of the flagrant violation of civil liberties and the unconstitutional method of selection of jurors.

Jury selection in North Carolina excludes some 75% of the state's citizens from jury service. The method, the union charged, is in violation of the due process and equal protection clauses of the 14th amendment to the U. S. Constitution. During the last 10 years, only 12 Negroes have served on the county court jury.

Following these arrests, over 2,200 Winston-Salem citizens, attended a rally called to halt the rising tide of union-busting and violations of civil liberties. They pledged support to the laundry workers in their fight, and sent resolutions to City and State officials as well as leading newspapers.

They called on the State Legislature to pass a State 65c minimum wage law and a State Labor Relations Act to "protect workers not engaged in interstate commerce, in their right to organize without interference or coercion from their employers."

So far, the Defense Fund has received contributions of nearly $1,000, but this is only one-seventh of the amount needed to fight the case through successfully.

You can help by:

Sending contributions to Local 22, 247½ No. Main St., Winston-Salem, N.C.

PROTESTS— IS JAILED

Because he protested when Charleston, C. C., cops started pushing FTA pickets around, Reuel Stanfield, president of FTA Local 15, was arrested on charges of "disorderly conduct" and sentenced to 20 days in jail or a $60 fine.

The arrest took place on the Bay Fruit Co. picket line, where FTA members were out on strike, and came at about the same time police were trying to break FTA Local 22 in Winston-Salem, N.C.

Local 15 is appealing the case, Stanfield announced.

Know Your Rights

'YOU CAN ORGANIZE,' SAYS SUPREME COURT

"Hey, get along — you can't hand those things out here," says a cop to you as you stand on a street corner passing leaflets telling the public of your local's wage demands. What is your answer?

Or a sheriff tells a bunch of people listening to a speech in a public park to "break it up," and starts moving in with his "boys" to enforce that order. What do you do?

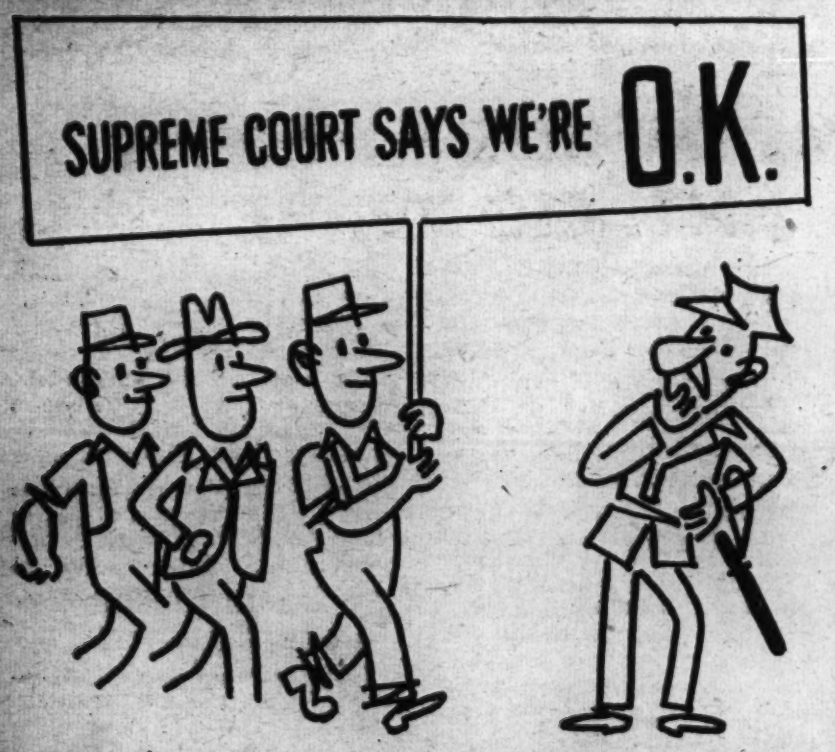
Or on a picket line, the "guardians of law and order" agree with the boss that you should not carry picket signs—and order you to "cease and desist."

It just so happens that you have a perfect right to carry on these activities. They are your civil rights, as upheld by the Supreme Court of the United States. And employer stooges, whether dressed in cops' uniforms or not, are breaking the law if they interfere with you.

"Your Civil Rights" by CIO General Counsel Lee Pressman, tells the facts about constitutional provisions and laws which uphold our freedom to carry on union activities. Brother Pressman, the best labor lawyer in the U.S.A., writes as a workers' lawyer, in clear, laymen's language.

"With respect to all of the activities which are important in organizing workers—the distribution of leaflets and literature, the calling and holding of meetings, speaking in public canvassing from door to door, picketing — the Supreme Court has handed down important decisions which constitute the law of our land," says Pressman.

"It is the duty of every public official of every state and municipality, of all police officers and sheriffs, to obey the decisions of the Supreme Court."



But workers will be denied their rights if unfriendly officials can get away with it. This CIO pamphlet is a tool for the CIO membership to use in enforcing our rights.

"The purpose of this pamphlet is to prevent violations of your rights before they occur by enabling you to bring to the attention of the proper officials the fact that you, as a trade union member or organizer, have certain basic rights which can not be interefered with," Pressman explains.

"If a local law enforcement official attempts to interfere with the distribution of union literature or solicitation of union members, you should bring his attention to the fact that these activities are protected by the Constitution and by federal law.

"If he tries to interfere with you on the basis of local ordinances regulating such activities as leaflet distribution or canvassing, you should read to him the quotations in this pamphlet dealing with such ordinances."

Should the man fail to understand the English language, FTA members and organizers of course must take steps to enforce their rights. The names and addresses of people to contact for help are supplied in "our Civil Rights."

With the gathering storm clouds following the November 5 elections, workers will more than ever have to fight for their rights. Attacks on civil liberties will become increasingly bold. But these rights can be protected if a lot of union people know the score. "Your Civil Rights" is a powerful weapon in this fight.

Civil rights have been won over the years through struggles to organize and win better conditions. They can be protected by the united effort of workers throughout the length and bredth of the land. We must resist and defeat every violation.

CIO President Philip Murray in recommending "Your Civil Rights" points out that "when one group in a community suffers a loss of rights or is a victim of police brutality, a pattern is created which soon destroys the freedom of all groups . . ." Unions must not, Murray warns "confine this concern to the protection of labor's rights alone and disregard the invasion of the civil rights of others."

Murray calls for "a great crusade to make civil liberties a reality among our people . . . We must identify and fight as the enemies of America those bigots who seek to suppress the liberties of the people."

Order "Your Civil Rights" from CIO Publicity Dept., 718 Jackson Pl., NW, Washington 6, D.C. 20c a copy; 100 copies for $15.

This is the kind of "housing" that 25,000 CIO sugar workers in Hawaii are fighting in their three months old strike against the "Big Five" sugar and shipping firms that seek to perpetuate feudal conditions on the islands.

HAWAIIAN SUGAR STRIKERS FIGHT SLAVE CONDITIONS

By Elaine Mitchell
ILWU Dispatcher

Hawaii, paradise of the Pacific, is today the scene of one of the most bitter and crucial labor struggles in history.

Twenty-five thousand sugar workers, members of the CIO International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union, have entered their third month of strike. Pitted against them is the hitherto unchallenged might of the Big Five, powerful combine of industrial giants which for years has imposed a system of labor peonage on the peoples of the Territory.

Immediate strike issues are workers' demands for a 65 cent per hour minimum wage, the union shop, the 40 hour week, and elimination of plantation slums. To these demands, Hawaii's sugar barons answered a flat no.

Underlying issue of the sugar strike is one of the union's survival. The Hawaiian Big Five are determined to smash the Territorial ILWU and thus forestall the rapid trend toward economic and political freedom led by organized labor in the Territory.

The striking sugar workers are new to organized labor. They are Filipinos, Japanese, Chinese, Portugese, and native Hawaiians. They work and live on 33 plantations distributed over the four major islands.

For years they and their fathers and their fathers' fathers have worked and suffered under conditions of ruthless serfdom. Prior to the current strike most of them earned as little as 41 and 43 cents an hour. They live in wretched shanties provided them by the plantation owners in place of wages.

Past strikes by these workers were easily broken. The sugar barons succeeded in keeping the workers divided among themselves on racial and nationalistic grounds. Terror, violence, and murder were also used. In past strikes wholesale eviction of workers from their plantation homes were forced. On one such occasion 1,200 people died from an ensuing epidemic.

Today, united in the ILWU, Hawaii's sugar workers of all races and nationalities march on the picket lines together. The strike is 100 percent effective. Since it began September 1, all harvesting, cultivation, and grinding of sugar cane has ceased.

The people of Hawaii are with the strikers. Grocers, meat and fish and dry goods stores are extending them credit. All scab herding efforts have flopped. To counteract this public sympathy the Big Five is making full use of its controlled press and radio. Full page employer ads red-baiting, Jew baiting, labor baiting, and foreigner (malihini) baiting appear in the press daily.

It hasn't worked. The Big Five's iron curtain was publicly blasted to smithereens in these last few weeks. A double-barrelled exposé of their bust-the-union schemes has forced them back into negotiations with the union, where the case now stands.

Further exposure came with the publication of a fact finding report by the Honolulu Council of Churches and Ministerial Union condemning the Big Five for refusing to bargain in good faith with the union. Said the Council:

"The whole social and economic structure of Hawaii is now undergoing and has undergone a profound change. Labor thus grows to feel that it can and should unite for the furtherance of its ends; and that its people should possess the right and power to control themselves and their destinies."

The Council of Churches argued for recognition of these changes in Hawaii. Until the Big Five also recognize that Hawaiian workers, like workers everywhere, "possess the right and power to control themselves and their destinies" the great sugar strike will continue.

LEAF WORKERS PLAN MASTER CONTRACT

"One master contract and one local — Local 10 — for all leaf house workers" was the program adopted at the first FTA Leaf House Area Conference held in Wilson, N.C. on October 27. Some 175 delegates to the conference represented over 7,667 workers.

In his report to the Conference, FTA Director of Organization John Tisa recommended that a division of Local 10 be set up in each city, with plant chairmen in each division to serve on a Joint Board. The Joint Board to be the governing body of Local 10 and to meet each month.

After a lunch prepared and served by the CIO members of Wilson, the conference reconvened to hear reports from the Policy, PAC and Organizing Committees.

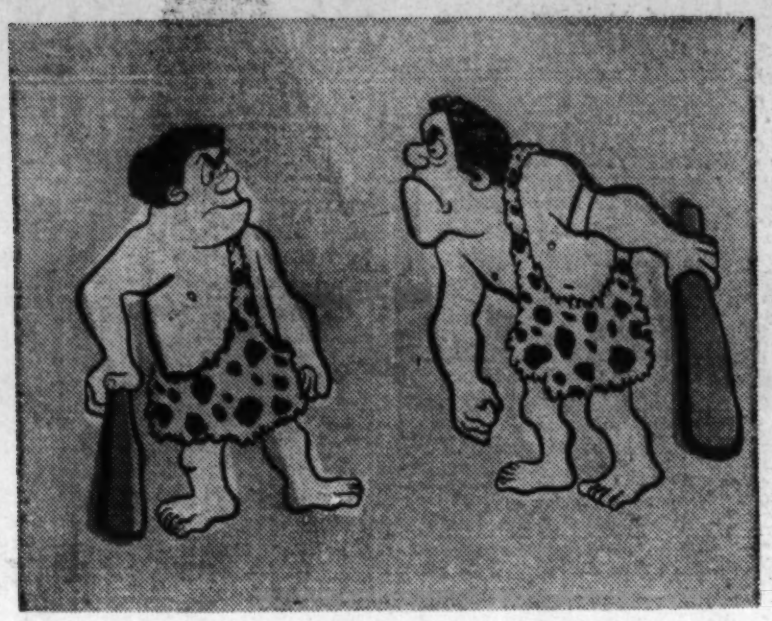
Endorsing Tisa's recommendations, the Policy Committee urged that all contracts negotiated this year have one expiration date—June 30, 1947—in order to pave the way for a master contract next year at the beginning of the season.

A fight for unemployment compensation and for 65-75c minimum wage legislation, as well as the wiping out of the "exemption period" under the Wage Hour Act was presented as immediate tasks by the PAC Committee.

The Organizing Committee's three-fold program included: continued organization in the plants where elections had been won; continued fight against the bosses and their AFL stooges, plus training of union leaders; and forming committees to organize other plants in FTA's jurisdiction.

The conference, which opened with the singing of union songs, was chaired by Robert Latham. Jonas Williams and Mary Rouse were secretary and assistant secretary, respectively.

LOOK 'N' LEARN WITH CIO



New sound film strip, "The Man in a Cage," opens with scenes of cave men practicing intolerance.

George T. Guernsey, Assistant Director of Education, CIO, (left) teaches two CIO students at Antioch College how to run a sound, film-strip machine. A dual speed motor on this machine makes it possible to play regular phonograph records as well as radio transcriptions.

The film shows how Columbus, an Italian sailor, with a crew of many nationalities discovered America.

"Man in the Cage," pictured here, is only one of several new sound film strips being offered to unions on a rental or purchase basis by the CIO Department of Research and Education.

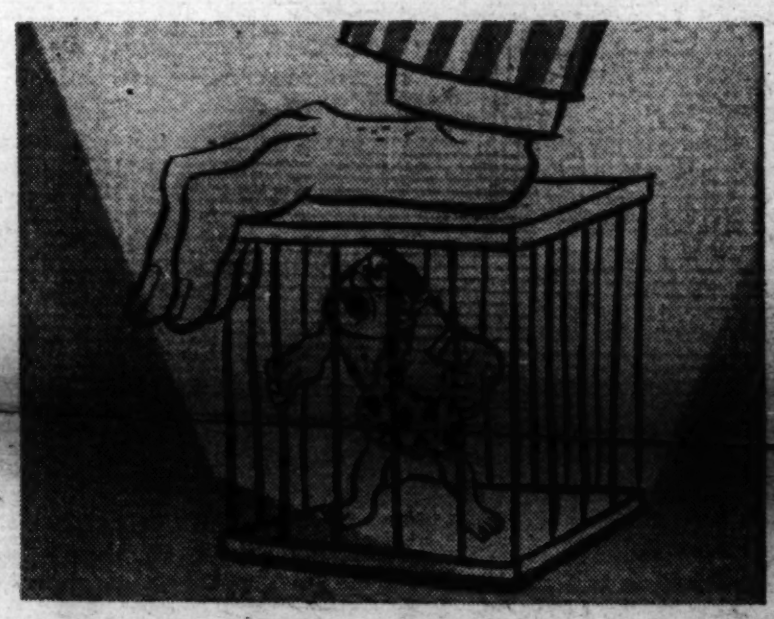
The film strip, made in Hollywood by United Film Productions, has been highly praised as a means of provoking discussion and thought on the question of inter-racial relationships.

FTA's own Education Dept., headed by Connie Anderson, has purchased a film strip machine and can arrange showings, either with FTA's machine or by indicating where one can be bought or rented.

"Man in the Cage" is one of six sound film strips available from the National CIO. Complete film strip "kits" can be bought by CIO locals for $200 from the CIO Research and Education Dept.

The machine can handle up to 500 people, and the kit includes six strips, a PAC recording on the minimum wage bill featuring Gregory Peck and two albums of union songs.

The film strip machine will play both victrola speed (78 revolutions per minute) and transcription speed (33 revolutions), which makes it usable for both ordinary victrola records and for radio transcriptions, etc.



During the war President Roosevelt established the FEPC by executive order and put "prejudice in a cage."

The six strips included in the CIO kit are as follows:

"Man in the Cage," "Guaranteed Wages the Year Round," (on the guaranteed annual wage now being pushed by CIO unions), "Saga of 666," the story of a union local and "Svenson's Seniority," both produced by the CIO United Automobile Workers; "X Marks the Spot," on political action, door to door canvassing, etc., and "Up and Atom," a strip emphasizing the need for civilian control of atomic energy.

Discussion guides are being prepared for each strip for use after the strip is shown (all the six are sound strips), and are included in the $200 kit obtainable from CIO.

For further information, write Connie Anderson, FTA Education Director, at FTA's new address, 20th and Race Streets, Philadelphia 3, Pa.

The United States contains all races, religions and nationalities. This has helped to make us great.

We still have some people with prehistoric attitudes who are suspicious of those who are different

Workers today support the passage of a permanent FEPC—one step in building a better world.